

REMARKS

This responds to the Office Action mailed on January 8, 2004.

Claims 1, 3, 5, 21, and 31 are amended and claims 2, 6, 25, and 35 are canceled; as a result, claims 1, 3, 5, 7-11, 21-24, 26-28, 31-34, and 36-38 are now pending in this application.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner has stated that claims 6, 25, and 35 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The Applicant has amended claims in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion. In light of this amendment, the Applicant will not make additional comments regarding the rejection made under 34 U.S.C. §102.

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CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney (612) 373-6976 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,

ZHIPING YIN ET AL.

By their Representatives,

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Date 3/1/04

By Janal M. Kalis
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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 8th day of March, 2004.

Amy Moriarty
Name

[Signature]
Signature

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